

DOCKET NO: 243863US3DIV

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
HITOSHI SAKAMOTO, ET AL. : EXAMINER:  
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :  
FILED: HERewith : GROUP ART UNIT:  
FOR: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR :  
THE FORMATION OF A METAL FILM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application  
as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.